

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SCCT-02

SAM-01 SAB-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /121 W

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O R 201314Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8524

DIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USINT DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 6983

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

LONDON FOR LAMBRAKIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PMIL, IS, LE

SUBJECT: CONTINUING ISRAEL AIR RAIDS ON LEBANON

REF: BEIRUT 6941

1. MORE IAF STRIKES AGAINST LEBANON OCCURRED THIS MORNING
AT 1130 LOCAL--THIS TIME DIRECTED AGAINST REFUGEE CAMPS AT
MIYYEH-MIYYEH AND 'AIN AL HILWEH NEAR SIDON, AND RASHIDIYYEH AND
BURJ ASH SHEMALI NEAR TYRE. EYE-WITNESSES DESCRIBE

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ATTACKS AS HAVING LASTED OVER HALF HOUR AND AS "VERY

HEAVY". (DEPT WILL RECALL THAT 'AIN AL HILWEH AND RASHIDIYYEH CAMPS WERE ALSO AMONG TARGETS OF ISRAELI AIR/NAVAL ATTACKS ON MAY 16 AND 19, FOLLOWING MAALOT MASSACRE.) LEBANESE ARMY SOURCES, APPROACHED BY DATT, STATE THAT PRELIMINARY REPORTS FROM AIN AL HILWEH INDICATE 7 PERSONS KILLED AND 24 SERIOUSLY WOUNDED, BUT THEY HAVE NO FURTHER INFO RE CASUALTIES OR DAMAGE.

2. COMMENT: STRIKES US THAT THE LONGER THESE ISRAELI ATTACKS CONTINUE, THE GREATER WILL BE THE LIKELIHOOD OF CIVILAN CASUALTIES AND INCREASE IN LOCAL SYMPATHY FOR FEDAYEEN. AS NOTED REFTTEL, MANY LEBANESE ALREADY INCLINED TO INTERPRET IAF RAIDS AS ENCOURAGED BY "GREEN LIGHT" ALLEGEDLY GIVEN TO ISRAEL IN JOINT US-ISRAELI COMMUNIQUE, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF ITS REFERENCE TO FEDAYEEN AS "MERCENARIES". THAT ERRONEOUS IMPRESSION IS LIKELY GAIN INCREASING CREDENCE HERE AS IAF ATTACKS CONTINUE.
GODLEY

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE TEL AVIV
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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005